AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

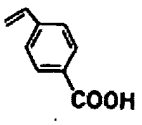
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

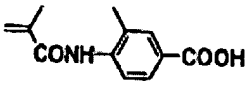
1. (currently amended): An infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate comprising a support and a heat-sensitive layer, wherein the heat-sensitive layer comprises:

(A) a copolymer having a monomer unit selected from the group consisting of monomer units represented by the following formulas a-1, a-3, a-5, a-6, a-8, a-12, a-14, a-15, a-17, a-18, a-19, a-20, a-21, a-22, a-23, a-24, a-29, a-30, a-33, a-34, a-35 and a-36, ~~(I)~~ and at least one monomer unit selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylic acid esters and (meth)acrylamide derivatives:

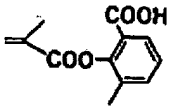
a-1



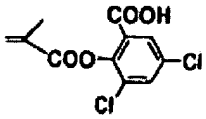
a-3



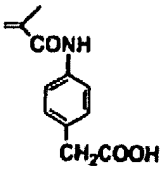
a-5



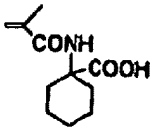
a-6



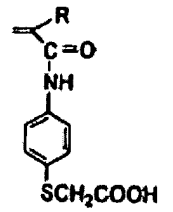
a-8



a-12

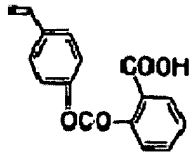


a-14,15



a-14: R= -H, a-15: R= -CH_3

a-17



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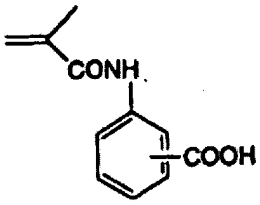
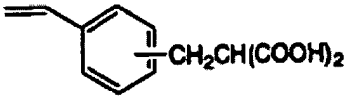
a-18,19,20



a-18: o-
a-19: m-
a-20: p-

a-21



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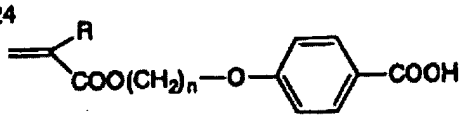
a-22,23,24



a-22: R=-CH3, n=4
a-23: R=-CH3, n=6
a-24: R=-H, n=6

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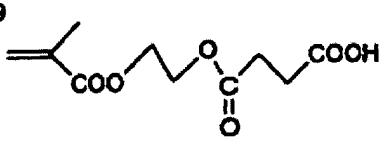
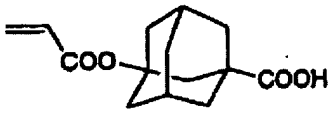
a-29



a-30



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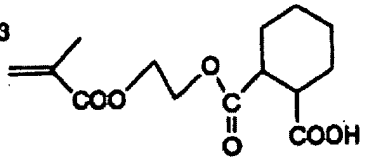
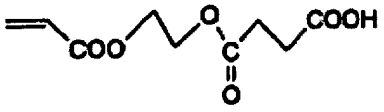
a-33



a-34



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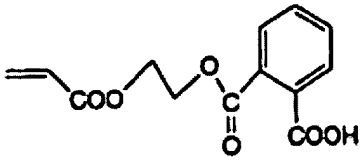
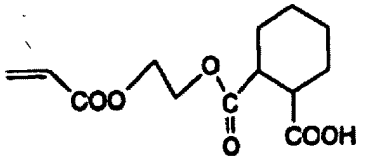
a-35



a-36



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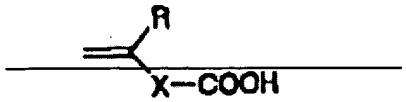
(B) an alkali-soluble high molecular weight compound having a sulfonamide group; and

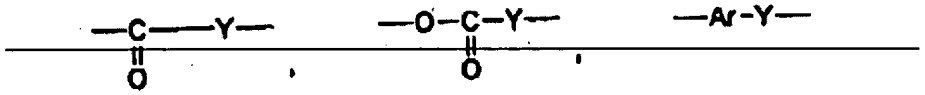
(C) a light-heat conversion material,

~~and~~provided that the copolymer (A) and the compound (B) are separate and distinct components~~:~~

~~Formula (I):~~



~~wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group; X represents an arylene group which may have a substituent, or any of the following structures:~~



~~wherein Ar represents an arylene group which may have a substituent; Y represents a divalent connecting group~~.

2. (currently amended): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 1, wherein the copolymer (A) comprises the monomer unit ~~represented by formula (I)~~ selected from the group consisting of monomer units represented by formulas a-1, a-3, a-5, a-6, a-8, a-12, a-14, a-15, a-17, a-18, a-19, a-20, a-21, a-22, a-23, a-24, a-29, a-30, a-33, a-34, a-35 and a-36 in an amount of 1 to 90 mol%.

3. (currently amended): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 1, wherein the copolymer (A) further has at least one monomer unit ~~of (meth)acrylic acid esters, (meth)acrylamide derivatives and~~ which is a styrene derivatives.

4. (currently amended): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 1, wherein the ~~copolymer (A) further has~~ amount of the at least one monomer unit selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylic acid esters and ~~,~~ (meth)acrylamide derivatives ~~and styrene derivatives in an amount of~~is from 5 to 90 mol%.

5. (original): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 1, wherein the heat-sensitive layer comprises the copolymer (A) in an amount of 1 wt% to 40 wt%.

6. (original): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 1, wherein the alkali-soluble high molecular weight compound (B) has at least one monomer unit of low molecular weight compounds each having in one molecule, at least one sulfonamide group -NH-SO_2- and at least one polymerizable unsaturated bond.

7. (currently amended): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 1, wherein the heat-sensitive layer further comprises a novolak resin.

8. (original): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 1, wherein the light-heat conversion material is an infrared absorbing dye.

9. (original): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 8, wherein the infrared absorbing dye has an absorbance at 700 to 1200 nm infrared rays.

10. (original): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 1, wherein the heat-sensitive layer comprises the light-heat conversion material in an amount of 0.01 to 50 wt%.

Claims 11-12. (canceled).

13. (new): The infrared-sensitive lithographic printing plate according to claim 3, wherein the amount of the styrene derivative monomer unit is from 5 to 90 mol%.